

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES**

Thursday **August 27, 2009** @ 4:30
Santa Barbara Police Department
215 E. Figueroa St.

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Lennon, Signor, Parker and Rodriguez

Staff Present: Captain Gil Torres, Acting Fire Chief Andy DiMizio, Assistant City Attorney David McDermott, Lieutenant Dave Whitham, Sergeant Riley Harwood, Police Technician Holly Perea, Rosie Calvillo (Secretary training) and Secretary, Barbara Sansone

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Rodriguez to approve minutes of **June 25, 2009**
Commissioner Parker asked that the last paragraph of the minutes be stricken from the record before approving the minutes.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

*Mr. Skinner arrived at the meeting late and requested to speak for 2 minutes.

Nathan Skinner spoke to the Commission about issuing a complaint to the Commission against the Police Chief. He was referred to the City Attorney's Office, the City Council or to seek his own attorney.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Time frame for filling vacant Commissioner position:** City Clerk's Office confirmed that due to the upcoming elections the office was too busy for a mid-year appointment and the vacant position will be filled at the regular recruitment time in September, appointing a Commissioner in December 2009.
- **Discuss possible new meeting location:** Capt. Torres said that the remodel will not take place for at least 2 years; Parker said he has heard from some of the public that they do not think it is convenient to meet at the police department and he also wanted to know why the meeting is not televised as are some of the other Commissions meetings; Parker was going to inquire about having the meetings televised; Secretary Sansone stated that the Chief's preference is to keep the meetings at the police department for the

convenience of police staff, who would be able to present and then return to duty; Rodriguez stated that in the past the meetings were held in various locations and during this time members of the public did not attend.

Parker then stated that he would only look into having the meetings televised. Parker also asked about the change of location of CompStat to the Gebhard Room and Capt. Torres confirmed this.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Discuss budgetary impact on department of recent grant denial:** Capt. Torres stated that the Chief and Deputy Chief were presently at a budget meeting; Sept. 8th the department's budget was going to be discussed at Council; by delaying hiring of vacant officer positions until January there will be a significant savings in salary; Council has set money aside in anticipation of the department not receiving the grant; currently there are 7 police officer vacancies, these will hopefully be filled in January;
- **Request scheduling September tours of Commissioners of SBPD Evidence storage facilities and new Fire HQ building:** Lt. Whitham said this could be arranged and Chief DiMizio said that a tour of HQ would be possible. Grand "rollout" of the Fire Department on September 26.
- **Request September or October presentation of scope of "hate crimes" in Santa Barbara:** Lennon requested to Capt. Torres that a presentation be given in October on hate crimes in Santa Barbara. Capt. Torres agreed. Parker said the organizations that stated to him that there is a problem are Pacific Pride Foundation and another organization that deals with the homeless.
- **Request September presentation on impact of "Plan Santa Barbara" on public safety resources and issues:** Parker said that this was discussed at a Council meeting and he read the plan, said he saw many issues dealing with density and thought this would have an impact on public safety resources, making more demands on public safety. Parker wants the Commission to know what the "Plan" is. Thought that Paul Casey should give a presentation. This can be scheduled at the October or November meeting.
- ***See Public Comment (Mr. Skinner arrived at this time)**

Commissioner Rodriguez left the meeting at this time due to his back injury.

Asst. City Attorney McDermott stated that now with only 3 Commissioners anything voted on would have to be approved or denied with a unanimous vote.

7. PRIVATE PATROL APPLICATION – CENTRAL COAST SECURITY

No one present

MOTION: Parker to deny application

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion denied

8. PRIVATE PATROL APPLICATION – CHAMP'S SECURITY

No one present

MOTION: Parker to approve application

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

**9. FORTUNETELLER PERMIT APPROVAL – DOLLY ADAMS DBA “MADAME ROSINKA”
3 LOCATIONS**

Present: Steve Adams, Dolly Adams son

MOTION: Signor to approve permit

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

10. NIGHTCLUB DANCE PERMIT RENEWAL – VELVET JONES – 423 STATE ST.

Present: Ryan Purdy and Craig Jenkins (owner)

Also, Kay Morter and Susie Thompson spoke in favor of renewing Velvet Jones Dance Permit.

MOTION: Signor to approve renewal of Permit with conditions

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

Velvet Jones has filed an appeal regarding several of the conditions on their permit renewal.

11. NIGHTCLUB DANCE PERMIT – O’MALLEY’S – 523 STATE ST.

Present: Dan Baham

The wording on one of the conditions under #6 was changed to: “3 Security Guards Sunday through Wednesday during hours of dancing.”

MOTION: Signor to approve Dance Permit

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

12. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR TO FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION

MOTION: Signor to nominate Lennon as Chair

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

MOTION: Signor to nominate Parker as Vice Chair

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

13. FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT:

- 10th anniversary of the passing of Steve Masto, who died in the line of duty
- La Brea fire is contained but not controlled; 500 firefighters still on scene
- Sprinkler Ordinance passed
- Station 1 remodel will have a grand reopening in September; tour for Commissioners will be set up when they wish
- Dealing with budgetary issues; they will get through year end in good shape; mid 2010 there is some cause for concern; Training Captain position will be held open; very concerned about budget in 2011; station may have “brown outs”
- Working very closely with the Association (John Turner)

Parker stated (with regards to the Fire Chief’s oral) that he hoped that the City Administrator and the City Council would give preference to someone from the inside instead of going outside to hire. Chief DiMizio thanked Commissioner Parker.

14. POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

- Captain Torres gave a facilities update; working with Community Development, private architect and Public Works Engineers; project has grown from a locker room remodel to upgrade of air conditioning, electrical; structural engineers hired to do a thorough analysis; report should be done in the next month or so to go to the City Administrator and then Council for further direction; one of the biggest challenges is funding; no sources at the moment; 8 million dollars set aside from redevelopment funds to go towards project;
- Captain Torres is also part of the team to address temporary relocation of this building; has not been vacant since 1959; many challenges with vacating - storage issues, parking issues, security issues

- Building will not be vacated for at least 2 years; permit process is almost a year and then design and planning another year
- 7 officer openings; middle of backgrounds; would like to send 7 to the January academy; 6 openings in Dispatch, tough positions to fill; very demanding and challenging job
- Budget to be discussed next Tuesday (September 1, 2009)

Parker asked about raising the salary of Dispatchers; Captain Torres said HR can do a salary survey study to compare to other agencies; thinks we are in the same ball park as the Sheriff's Department; Ventura raised the salary of their Dispatchers; Parker wanted to go on record as stating that there should be an increase in Dispatcher salaries; Chief DiMizio stated that the call volume is slower at the Fire Department

12. Parker to adjourn the meeting in memory of Stephen Masto: ADJOURN 5:50

David Pritchard, who is a Council candidate, introduced himself to the Commissioners.